

§ 51-9.301

subpart 51-9.6 of this part, the accounting of disclosures will be made available to the individual upon request. Procedures for requesting access to the accounting are outlined in subpart 51-9.3 of this part.

Subpart 51-9.3—Individual Access to Records

§ 51-9.301 Notification.

Any individual who wishes to determine if a system of records maintained by the Committee contains a record pertaining to him should direct a request to the Executive Director at the address indicated in the public notice describing the system of records which has been published in the FEDERAL REGISTER. The request should display clearly the legend "Privacy Act Request" both on the face of the request letter and on the face of the envelope. The request letter should contain the complete name and identifying number of the system as published in the FEDERAL REGISTER; the full name, address, and telephone number of the subject individual; a brief description of the nature, time, place and circumstances of the individual's association with the Committee and any other information which the individual believes would facilitate the Executive Director's determination whether the individual's name is included in the system of records. The Executive Director shall answer or acknowledge the request within ten working days.

§ 51-9.302 Times, places and requirements for access requests.

Records will be available for authorized access during normal business hours at the offices where the records are located. A requester should be prepared to identify himself through production of a driver's license, student or employee identification card, or other identification acceptable to the Executive Director. When the disclosure of records to the wrong individual would result in substantial harm, embarrassment, inconvenience, or unfairness to the subject individual, the Executive Director may require a notarized statement of identity. The Executive Director shall ensure that such times, places, and requirements for identifica-

41 CFR Ch. 51 (7-1-99 Edition)

tion are not excessive and do not restrict individual access unduly.

§ 51-9.303 Access procedures.

§ 51-9.303-1 Form of requests.

(a) An individual must request access to his record in writing. The Executive Director shall accept by telephone only general inquiries for information regarding systems of records or procedures.

(b) A written request should be directed to the Executive Director as listed in the public notice describing the system of records. The individual should display clearly on the face of the request letter and on the face of the envelope the legend "Privacy Act Request", and include the complete name and identifying number of the system as published in the FEDERAL REGISTER; the full name, address, the telephone number of the individual; a brief description of the nature, time, place and circumstances of the individual's association with the Committee; and any other information which the individual believes would facilitate the Executive Director's search for the record.

(c) An individual who wishes to have a person of his choosing accompany him in reviewing a record must sign a statement authorizing the disclosure of his record in the presence of another individual, if so requested by the Executive Director. An individual who intends to visit the Committee office in order to review a record should make an appointment with the Executive Director at least one week in advance.

§ 51-9.303-2 Special requirements for medical/psychological records.

(a) The Executive Director may require an individual who requests access to his medical or psychological record to designate a physician of his choice to whom he may disclose the individual's record if in the opinion of the Executive Director, disclosure directly to the individual might be harmful.

(b) The Executive Director shall mark records which should not be disclosed directly to the subject individual and shall inform an individual

Comm. for Pur. from Blind, Severely Disabled

§ 51-9.304-3

requesting such records of the requirement to designate a physician to whom the records can be disclosed.

§ 51-9.303-3 Granting access.

(a) Upon receipt of a request for access to non-exempt records, the Executive Director shall make such records available to the individual, or shall acknowledge the request within ten working days. The acknowledgment shall indicate when the Executive Director will make the record available.

(b) If the Executive Director anticipates more than ten days in making a record available he also shall include in the acknowledgement specific reasons for the delay.

(c) If an individual's request for access does not contain sufficient information to permit the Executive Director to locate the record, the Executive Director shall request additional information from the individual and shall have ten working days following receipt of the additional information in which to make the record available, or to acknowledge receipt of the request and indicate when the record will be available. In no case shall more information be requested from the individual than that contained in the pertinent system of records.

(d) The Executive Director, at his discretion, either shall permit an individual to examine the original of the record, or shall provide the individual with a copy of the record. Fees shall be charged only for copies requested by the individual and not for copies provided to the individual for convenience of the agency.

(e) An individual may request to pick up a record in person or receive it by mail, directed to the name and address provided by the individual in his request. The Executive Director shall not make a record available to a third party for delivery to the subject individual, except in the case of medical records outlined in § 51-9.303-2.

(f) The Executive Director shall maintain in an individual's record an accounting of disclosures to the individual's documenting compliance with the request.

(g) The procedures for access to an accounting of disclosures is identical

to the procedure for access to a record as set forth in this section.

§ 51-9.303-4 Denials of access.

(a) The Executive Director may deny any individual access to his record only on the grounds that the Committee has published rules in the FEDERAL REGISTER exempting the pertinent system of records from the access requirement.

(b) Upon receipt of a request for access to an exempt system, the Executive Director shall prepare a letter denying access. The letter of denial shall contain a justification for denial of access which includes appropriate citation to the exemption provisions of these rules or other FEDERAL REGISTER notice exempting the system.

§ 51-9.304 Fees.

§ 51-9.304-1 Records available without charge.

The Executive Director shall make one copy of a record available to an employee without charge, and may waive the fee requirement for any other individual requesting records if the cost of collecting the fee is an unduly large part of, or greater than, the fee, or when furnishing the record without charge conforms to generally established business custom or is in the public interest.

§ 51-9.304-2 Records available at a fee.

The Executive Director shall provide one copy of a record to the individual at a fee prescribed in § 51-9.304-5. A reasonable number of additional copies will be provided for the applicable fee where reproduction services are not readily available.

§ 51-9.304-3 Prepayment of fees over \$25.

When the Executive Director determines that the anticipated total fee is likely to exceed \$25, he shall notify the individual that he must prepay the anticipated fee prior to making the records available. The Committee will remit the excess paid by the individual or bill the individual for an additional amount according to variations between the final fee charged and the amount prepaid.